

## Economic Development

- **Taxes** that fall in line based upon fair and equitable assessments for Village and Town and SHL residents
- Larger **tax breaks** for seniors/Having a single fire district with location in both Town & Village and rewarding fireman with tax breaks
- Availability of decent jobs with development that is concentrated in appropriate areas – 9W and along RR/ **Route 9W corridor** built up with businesses
- Self-sufficient community – **jobs**, services, housing/ a place with a level of **self-sufficiency**/ Employment/Increase in jobs that will stay in Athens/Good jobs/ Opportunities for work and recreation/ More complete community in that there are stores, etc. so that you don't have to leave town to buy items, except for major items
- **White-collar** economic activity/High tech jobs
- **Empire zone**

## Business Development

- 9W is developed with stores/restaurants/book store/coffee shop/ Major **commercial along 9W** corridor/ Hamlet shops centered on 9W/ Expansion on 9W-stores
- **Tourist** attractions/ Hotel/motel/ Prosperous destination location/
- A mixture of small and large businesses properly located/ **Assortment of new businesses**/
- Four star **restaurants** – 385 and 9W/Good places to shop and eat/ Having good delis and small grocery stores to buy fruits and vegetables/
- Focus on providing services to have people stay within Town and Village
- **Specialty stores** such as women's clothing, shoes, accessories, food, children's clothing in the old school
- Planned light **industrial** parks in Town non-polluting/Businesses kept in 9W industrial area/Encourage light industry to come to the Town
- **Little shops open and thriving**/ Add restaurants and small specialty shops/ Small retail business along Schoharie Tpk/ Good places to shop and eat/ The allowance of a % of small business to come into existence/ Balanced green space with community and unique small retail services/ Small unique shops, groceries, department store/ Basic stores – necessities – grocery/pharmacy/ Barber Shop
- **Diversified agriculture** thriving with local markets/Athens is agriculture center for retail shopping – co-op farm outlet/Lots of open space preserved and working farms, organic, dairy are thriving/Local farms supply local school cafeterias
- **No vacant shops** – restaurants and local shops – soda fountain, liquor store, card shop, drug store and grocery store

## Recreation / Arts / Culture

- **Community activities** like dances, potluck dinners where people/families/children can get together
- All year recreation centers/Center where people of all ages can find activities, similar to a YMCA/ YWCA on 9W/ **Community Center** with activities on a Friday night/ Community center for recreation for youth and adults/ Public services, transportation, community center and more parks/ Library and senior center/New senior center/ A minimum of crime and formation of youth facility for all to use
- Entertainment center for children/ **Entertainment center** - dance, dine, plays/ Concert hall, movie theater/Entertainment
- Athens **Street Festival**/Cultural events “Street Fair”
- More **cultural events** in the village/More theatre and cultural events/ Active cultural center/Athens is the home of the revived Hudson River School of Art/Create a cultural mecca that has music, performing arts, fine arts and literary performances and art education/Have second generation of artists, musicians and writers growing up in Athens/Good summer projects in park and cultural activities/ Cultural opportunities – classes, art gallery, expand library
- **Athens pool** – alive and thriving in excellent condition/ Athens pool/ Community pool that will be free to all residents of Athens
- **Recreation available**/Ball fields, bike trails, beach, pool/Hiking trails/ A running and bike trail through the entire Town and Village/ Recreational opportunities for adults and children – kayaking, bike paths and nature trails/ Plenty of parking/activities for old and young/ Opportunities for work and recreation
- Village Green with families playing/Beautiful parks/**Parks** that are finished/A beautiful Village green in the heart of town/Do something with the park on Union Street/ Public services, transportation, community center and more parks
- Horses along the nature path
- Town woodlands are still available for sportsmen but Village – no hunting is enforced

## Education / Schools

- **Excellent schools**/ Good school district/ Good schools/ The schools in Athens are top notch. They provide our children with excellent opportunities/
- Maintaining **Athens elementary** school/ Elementary school back to 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- All children from Athens go to **one school district**
- An **educated population**
- **Community involved** in school activities
- Improve **library** – increase in books and videos/ Library and senior center

## Youth

- Safe community for children/**Safe/ Safe/ Clean Streets**, safe places to walk/play/ A minimum of crime and formation of youth facility for all to use
- A community making fond memories **for children**
- Lots of **activities** for kids/Children playing at fields/Children playing at playground/ Activities – parks for children/Little League and girls' softball/ The youth has places to have activities and things to do
- 90% of students would go to college with **business-supported scholarships**
- The local kids have good jobs with healthcare/ **Our young people are able to stay** in the community because jobs are available and affordable houses are available/

## Housing

- **Affordable senior housing**/ Senior housing – not HUD mixed – 1 level. 1-2 bedrooms with garage and within walking distance to stores/ Retired people can afford their homes
- **Affordable houses** and living conditions/ Construct affordable single-family homes/Affordable well regulated Housing/ Affordable housing for young families/ Housing for all/Housing for all - no matter of income/ Affordable housing so no trailers needed/ Housing that's affordable for the average person/ Affordable single family homes/ Subdivisions of moderate quaint houses
- All the **old homes are restored** and new ones are made to meet those old house appearances
- **Townhouse or condo developments** close to river
- Houses - not being taxed out – **low taxes spent well**
- **Stop multi dwellings** such as apartments
- **Rustic housing** development

## Services

- Athens is easy to get to. Connected by ferry, 385, taxi, small business/van that goes throughout Greene County/ **Public transportation** Village to Town and outlying towns/Transportation for seniors and youth to get to Kingston/Catskill/Albany / Affordable transportation/ Taxi service/ Rail passenger service to NYC and Albany
- **Medical** arts building/ Medical facilities/ Medical services/Doctor and Dentist Office
- **Services** i.e. Meals on Wheels, Visiting Nurses
- Athens has its own **postal delivery** – not given to another town (i.e. Catskill)
- **Garbage service**
- One **fire service**/ Having a single fire district with location in both Town & Village and rewarding fireman with tax breaks

## Historic

- Restored **historic districts** and municipal building/ Beautiful historic district/ Charming historic properties / Hide change – keep historic
- **Architecture**/ Renovated senior center that is becoming Athens architecture
- Houses kept up, beautiful and historically correct/ Restored homes and landmarks, a polished neat main street/ Visually **historic houses** are encouraged and changes kept to a minimum
- Second Street storefronts are all historical looking but kept up/**Restored old buildings** that have been neglected/ Renovated VFW that is becoming more of historic Athens
- **Sidewalks** with vintage streetlamps and trees/Tree-lined sidewalks
- **Community appreciates its history** and portrays it through publication and signage/History preserved

## Riverfront - Development & Recreation

- Open up an area North or South of Village for **picnicking and swimming**
- Develop **waterfront for recreational** use of river/ Nice Riverfront (marinas, restaurants, recreation)/ River recreation/Improve riverfront, add marina/Waterfront with docks, park, and cultural center/ Riverfront summer recreation opportunities/ Activities on the river/ Better public access to river/ Access to river/ Use of river for recreation/ Riverfront revitalized/ Athens boat launch/ The river edge has a lovely walk to walk along.
- Waterfront and land in great shape/The riverfront is clean, attractive and a place that people visit and gather/**Clean waterfront**/ Access to a healthy Hudson River that is protected by Town/Village/ Clear the waterfront and make it a beach
- A village that has a fully developed **riverfront recreational community**/ Scenic Hudson River community/ Beautiful location nestled between mountains and river
- Nice Park by the water, with flowers and more trees/ Parkland at Green Lake that is maintained/ **Riverfront Park kept as a park “green”**/ Do not encourage development on the waterfront – keep it green
- **Well utilized riverfront park**/ Excellent access to river with new park and marina/ Athens riverfront park/ Active Riverfront Park with picnics, bandstand, play area, cruise boats/ Highly utilized river park and other river activities/ Waterfront Park – recreation area/ The waterfront park is active with concerts and activities
- **Tourist development** of the riverfront/ Kayak and canoe destination/ Historic and river tours/River transportation
- Ding’s **Lighthouse** Marina/ Lighthouse still open for tours/ Lighthouse
- **Murderer’s Creek**

## Infrastructure

- Expand **sewer** to parts of the town/Water and sewer down 9W/ Up-to-date improved water and sewer infrastructure/ Fix the Sleepy Hollow sewer and minimize odor impacts/ Do not increase capacity of sewer/ Build up along 9W with water and sewer district
- **Water** treatment plant on the Hudson River/ Water and sewer down 9W/ Up-to-date improved water and sewer infrastructure/ Good clean water/ Water, roads, etc/ Clean water/ Build up along 9W with water and sewer district
- Municipal **utilities** expanded North to Cocksackie's and West to 9W
- Keep **sidewalks** cleared of bushes, cars and fix cracks/ Streets wider, more sidewalks, better lighting/ Sidewalks are even and easy to walk on/ Sidewalks you can walk on/ Sidewalks/ Nice paved streets and sidewalks
- **Streets and road ways** in excellent shape winter & summer/ Upgrade roads around Village/Easy access around streets/ Clean streets/ Streets wider, more sidewalks, better lighting/ Smooth Village roads/ Water, roads, etc/ Clean clutter from roadways/ Clean streets
- Heavy road **traffic** (trucks) west of Village only/ **Speed** limits are followed/Lower speeds on rural roads (less than 55mph)/ Traffic is minimal/ Smooth traffic flow
- High end **infrastructure**
- Underground **electric** lines
- Plenty of **parking**/activities for old and young

## Municipal Services

- T&V **offices** in the current building that has been restored/T&V offices in a new building/ Upgrade Village buildings/ New hall for T&V with big court room, meeting room and lots of storage/ New town building only no Village/ Maintaining Village and Town government in Village building
- **Community cooperation**/ Town of Athens and Village one government/ New town building only no Village/ A mating of Village and Town offices including SHL that can conduct all official business/ Village and Town combined for unity/ Athens as one community, not mentally divided
- Town/Village building – with **emergency medical response** team/ New town buildings and police department together
- Public services, transportation, community center and more parks
- Village & Town services in perfect order/**Well-run and effective government**/Responsive public officials
- To get **more people involved** with the whole community somehow so that the Village/Town Boards do not have total control

### Zoning / Land Use Development

- Defined building areas/ Limited setback on Village homes – utilize small lots
- Clear and concise zoning regulations/**Smart zoning**
- Comprehensive Plan being used by elected officials
- Maintaining open space by **enforcing zoning**. Updating zoning to include cluster housing – and not just all high priced together and low priced together – mixed/ Concentrated growth – open spaces plentiful
- Zoning appropriate and enforced so that mobile homes are not side by side with historic buildings/ No trailers
- Law ordinances that address problems before the problems cause concern
- Commercial development should focus on the 9W Corridor, green development is preferred over big box or strip mall development/ No strip development/ No sprawl/9W keep it scenic with few driveways
- Model of sustainable development/ New development is thought out and kept in clusters so open spaces can provide quality of life
- No cul-de-sacs/ Village layout without numerous housing developments that are self contained
- Keeping our Town/Village small – no more growth as far as people moving in and building

### Environmental / Preservation of Open Spaces

- **Environmental positive**/Pristine lakes and waterways/ Free from pollution – no Brownfield's, no toxic runoff into river/ Cleaner air and safer water supply
- **Open spaces** – natural settings/ Areas of open space – nature/Expansive open space areas
- **Protected** view shed and watershed areas (along rail & power lines)/ Protection of natural resources/ Protected natural resources and wildlife habitat/ Be able to view Bald Eagle/ The Town and Village of Athens have valuable natural resources, open space, wildlife habitat, view shed and watershed resources that should be protected, valued and considered during planning and when making development decisions.
- **Balanced** green space with community and unique small retail services/ A place where businesses and rural life can live harmoniously
- New **green buildings**/ green development is preferred over big box or strip mall development
- **Diverse rural landscape** – lots of open space, fields, forests and farms/Working rural landscape - Farms and woodland still being worked/Continuation and support for farmland and open spaces provided
- **Middle Ground Flats** resource/Middle ground flats/Midland that is green – no people, no development/Mid ground – camping, picnicking, environmental studies

## Village Revitalization

- A Main Street that can provide basic needs – drug store, liquor store, etc but in an historic looking building/ **Vibrant** Main and Second Streets / A revitalized main street
- **Bustling downtown** with a library, cultural art center, shopping for food and gifts/Athens has a unique feature to offer residents and visitors. Bustling downtown in keeping with rural river town theme, year-round downtown covered downtown area./ Bustling downtown in Village/ Community center revived/ A hub for living a satisfactory life, community center, food stores, medical facilities with areas outside for recreation
- Village developed to provide a **localized shopping market** area/Lots of small Village shops and busy pedestrian life/ Stores in the Village/ Retail mix of shops in Village Main Street vibrant Main Street/ Stores on Main St/Small stores for shopping/ Small businesses/ Store fronts on Main Street with little **shops**/ Businesses are viable all through out the Village/ Small food store
- **Good Village restaurants**
- **Second Street** turned into an outside mall/ Second Street has small businesses less apartments/ Vibrant Main and Second Streets/ Small shops along Second Street (walk-to services)/Small shops and boutiques along Second Street/ Second Street storefronts are all historical looking but kept up
- Tree lined streets and walking paths/ **Beautiful streetscapes** of lighted sidewalks/ Lampposts/ Historic looking street lights and pleasant downtown ideas/ Trees and flowers on streets/Flowers on poles and baskets/ Benches/ Tree lined streets with beautiful sidewalks/ Tree lined streets/ Sidewalks with vintage streetlamps and trees/Tree-lined sidewalks
- As you walk you aren't affected by the weather in downtown stores covered with **awnings**
- **Nostalgic appearance** but up to date technology/ Norman Rockwell type Village but on the Hudson/ Ambiance/
- Off street parking/ No drive-thru anything in Village/ **Cozy Village layout**/ Great walking areas
- Handsome houses/ Restored homes and landmarks, a **polished neat main street**/
- **Maintenance** of Village – common spaces, sidewalks/drains, remove dilapidated properties (or repair)/ Properties are well kept and in good repair. No junk yards/ No abandoned cars or junk visible/ Clean

**Community Character (Rural/Small/Clean/Safe)**

- Overall rural character/Farm land and hay is still visible/ Country atmosphere/Rural/ rural feel to the neighborhoods/ **Rural** character maintained/ Quiet/ Preservation of rural area in Town
- Privacy/ Stay hidden and tucked away/ Off the beaten path – “free from the rat race”
- The community is primarily residential. There is some commercial use but only enough to meet the needs of the people who reside here.
- A **diverse** community economically and socially/ Diverse socio-economic mix/ Tolerant to a degree
- Fix and clean up what we have here, even if we have to help people to do it – not everyone has the money/ People have **pride** in their homes – clean yards/ Proudful
- Not like other towns, **unique!**/ Original character/ A positive spirit/ Small Town with a big heart/ It is not Cossackie
- Scenic Village and Town/A “**New England**” **Town** look – manicured, neat and clean/ Quaint, quiet, friendly Village/ Quaint/A well groomed little Charles Dickens Village/ Village should look like Mayberry/ Quaint town that keeps the historic/ Small town feel/ Maintain small town atmosphere
- Friendly /**Friendly**/ Senior friendly/ Pet friendly community/ Kid friendly community/ Tight knit community/ A small town with a friendly community where everyone still knows and likes everyone/ Friendly but not noisy/ Small where neighbors know each other, children have a sense of belonging/ Family centered town/ Pet friendly
- Remains **small and livable**/ Population – Village 4,000/Town 3,000
- Well-kept homes with curb appeal/ **Well-maintained property**/Community pride in personal property/ Neat houses on well maintained roads/ Well-maintained homes and well-designed neighborhoods / Properties are cleaned up and neat/ Attractive community where people keep up their properties